XV XV

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

1960 SEP 14 01 23

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE			
ACTION: OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE						
INFO: OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE						

FROM:
CHIEF, AFBMD FIELD OFFICE, VAFB, CALIF

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO [redacted]
By Authority of 205-2
Eugene McLaughlin 5 APR 1966

TO:
HQ AFBMD, LOS ANGELES 45, CALIF
HQ 6594TH TEST WING (SATELLITE), SUNNYVALE, CALIF
LOCKHEED MISSILES & SPACE DIV, SUNNYVALE, CALIF
LOCKHEED MISSILES & SPACE DIV, VAFB, CALIF (COURIER)

INFO: 1ST MISSILE DIVISION, VAFB, CALIF (COURIER)
AFBMD TECHNICAL EVALUATION STAFF, P.O. BOX 1567, VAFB, CALIF (COURIER)

GP-11

SECRET/WDG-16-4 1-160.

LOSA FOR WDZY; 6594TH TW FOR LT COL MATHISON; LMSD/SUNNYVALE FOR DEPT 61-44 (L.F. MORGAN); LMSD/VAFB FOR DEPT 65-44 AND 61-70; INFO FOR 1MD FOR COMMAND POST; AFBMD TECH EVAL STAFF FOR MR. PISCHEL.

SUBJECT: FLASH REPORT OF LAUNCHING OF DISCOVERER XV (NIGHT SHIFT-PRESTO) FROM VANDENBERG AFB.

1. VEHICLE CONFIGURATION:

1.1. SATELLITE VEHICLE, LOCKHEED MODEL 2205, SERIAL NO. 1058 SEPARATION WEIGHT 8,490 LBS.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS DOD DIR 5200.10

392 COMBAT SUPP GP Copy 60 of 69 copies

DATE	TIME
13	
MONTH	YEAR
SEP	1960

WRITER
SYMBOL: WDG-16-4
TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required): HAROLD M. POWELL, JR., MAJ, USAF
PHONE 8-5050 | PAGE NO. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 3
SECURITY [redacted]

RELEASER
SIGNATURE: Jason Hamilton Powell Jr
TYPED OR stamped NAME AND TITLE: WILLIAM F. HEISLER, LT COL, USAF, Chief, Satellite Systems Division
OD

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

AFBMD Field Office Comeback Cy

JOINT MESSAGEFORM - CONTINUATION SHEET | SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

FROM: CHIEF, AFBMD FIELD OFFICE, VAFB, CALIF [redacted]

1.2. FIRST STAGE, THOR DM-18, SERIAL NO. 246, MODIFIED TO UTILIZE A STRUCTURAL ADAPTER TO THE SATELLITE VEHICLE.

2. DATE AND TIME OF LAUNCH 13 SEPTEMBER 1960 AT 1513:39.5 PDT INTO A POLAR ORBIT ON AN ORBIT INJECTION AZIMUTH OF APPROXIMATELY 176 DEGREES.

3. PRIMARY OBJECTIVES: SEE BASIC DTO, EMSD DOCUMENT NO. 445725 AND APPENDIX "F".

4. THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE TO ATTAIN AN ORBIT WAS SATISFACTORILY ACHIEVED AS RECORDED BY ACQUISITION ON TRACKING AIDS AT KODIAK, AND VAFB ON THE FIRST PASS.

4.1. PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE THOR BOOSTER TO CARRY THE DISCOVERER SATELLITE TO THE PLANNED SEPARATION ALTITUDE AND VELOCITY WAS DEMONSTRATED. MAIN ENGINE BURNING TIME FROM LIFT-OFF WAS APPROXIMATELY 162.4 SECONDS WITH VERNIER CUT-OFF APPROXIMATELY 171.9 SECONDS AFTER LIFT-OFF.

4.2. THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE SATELLITE AIRFRAME TO WITHSTAND THE CONTROL SYSTEM PERTURBATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS WAS SATISFACTORILY INDICATED THROUGH ORBIT INJECTION. SEPARATION OCCURRED APPROXIMATELY 182.0 SECONDS AFTER LIFT-OFF.

4.3. THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE AGENA PROPULSION SYSTEM TO PROVIDE THE ADDITIONAL TOTAL IMPULSE TO ATTAIN ORBIT WAS SATISFACTORILY DEMONSTRATED. SECOND STAGE IGNITION OCCURRED APPROXIMATELY 279.8 SECONDS AFTER LIFT-OFF. AGENA ENGINE BURNING TIME OF 117.3 SECONDS WAS ACHIEVED THUS INDICATING PROPER PROPELLANT UTILIZATION. THE TOTAL IMPULSE DESIRED WAS OBTAINED AS EVIDENCED

SYMBOL	PAGE NR	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	INITIALS
WDG-16-4	2	3	[redacted]	CV

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173-1

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BY THE BURNOUT VELOCITY OF APPROXIMATELY 25,900 FT PER SECOND (INERTIAL REFERENCE) AS DETERMINED FROM THE PLOT BOARD CHARTS.

4.4. THE AGENA APU SYSTEM SATISFACTORILY DEMONSTRATED ACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE OF COMPONENTS AND ABILITY TO SUPPLY POWER REQUIREMENTS THROUGH THE FIRST PASS.

4.5. THE ABILITY OF THE AGENA GUIDANCE AND CONTROL SYSTEM TO DERIVE THE TIME TO INITIATE AND TERMINATE ORBITAL BOOST AT THE PROPER TIME WAS SATISFACTORY. AN INJECTION ANGLE OF APPROXIMATELY 0° WAS ACHIEVED.

4.6. THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE SATELLITE AIRBORNE AND GROUND TELEMETRY, TRACKING AND COMMAND SYSTEM WAS DEMONSTRATED SATISFACTORILY THROUGH ORBIT INJECTION.

5. ALL SECONDARY OBJECTIVES THROUGH THE FIRST PASS WERE ACHIEVED.

6. ALL TERTIARY OBJECTIVES WERE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE FIRST PASS.

7. THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED:

(A) THE TLM-18 VAFB TRACKED FOR 490 SECONDS.

(B) THE INJECTION ALTITUDE WAS APPROXIMATELY 135 STATUTE MILES.

8. PAD DAMAGE WAS MINIMUM. PAD RECOVERY TIME OF APPROXIMATELY FIVE WORKING DAYS IS EXPECTED.